

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FMC-04

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 DLOS-06 TRSE-00

OMB-01 DOTE-00 L-03 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 SPC-03 AID-20

AGR-20 ST-01 /112 R

DRAFTED BY EB/MA:JMGARNER:BMH

APPROVED BY EB/MA:RKBANK

NEA/INS:JLEADER

FMC:JSMITH

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R 052222Z OCT 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, CE

SUBJECT: US/SRI LANKA OCEAN SHIPPING

REF: A) STATE 174515; B) COLOMBO 2330; C) COLOMBO 2377

1. WILLIAM HAMM, SECRETARY OF NEW YORK COMMITTEE OF CEYLON-USA CONFERENCE (C/USAC) MET WITH AMBASSADOR NEVILLE KANAKARANTINE AT GSL EMBASSY ON SEPTEMBER 28 CONCERNING C/USAC ANNOUNCED RATE INCREASE (REF C).

HAMM INFORMED DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL OF HAMM'S UNDERSTANDING THAT GSL CONCERN FOCUSED ON TWO ISSUES:

- (1) C/USAC DID NOT CONSULT CENTRAL FREIGHT (CFB) BUREAU (REF A, REF B) CONCERNING ANNOUNCED RATE INCREASES;
- (2) C/USAC NOTIFICATION TO SHIPPERS WAS IMPROPER BECAUSE CFB PRESENTLY DOES NOT RECOGNIZE PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED CONFERENCE RATES. HAMM REPORTEDLY TOLD KANAKARANTINE THAT FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION (FMC) REGULATIONS

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REQUIRE CONFERENCE TO NOTIFY FMC AND CIRCULATE NEW RATES

TO SHIPPERS 90 DAYS BEFORE THEY TAKE EFFECT AND THAT C/USAC CONSIDERED THAT DURING THIS 90 DAY PERIOD THERE WAS ADEQUATE TIME FOR CONSULTATION WITH CFB ON ANNOUNCED RATE INCREASES WITH CFB. (FYI: DEPARTMENT HAS CONFIRMED WITH FMC THAT C/USAC FILED RATE INCREASE ON SEPTEMBER 14 AND UNDER US LAW CONFERENCE RATE INCREASES WOULD BECOME EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 15.) HAMM ALSO

SUGGESTED TO KANAKARANTINE THAT GSL SUSPEND CFB RULES AS THEY APPLY TO C/USAC UNTIL A CONVENTION FOR CODE OF CONDUCT FOR LINER CONFERENCE IS ADOPTED AND COMES INTO EFFECT. (COMMENT: DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS SHOULD AGREEMENT BE REACHED IN NOVEMBER-DECEMBER CODE OF CONDUCT CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, IT WOULD BE SEVERAL YEARS BEFORE THE CONVENTION WOULD COME INTO FORCE.)

2. DEPARTMENT UNDERSTANDS GSL MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TOURISM WILL BE VISITING WASHINGTON IN MID-OCTOBER (DEPARTMENT REQUESTS FORWARDING EXACT DATES OF VISIT TO US). DEPARTMENT PREFERS MINIMAL OR ABSENCE USG DIRECT INVOLVEMENT WITH THIS ISSUE AT THIS TIME BUT HAS NO OBJECTION IF EMBASSY WISHES INFORMALLY SUGGEST TO GSO DESIRABILITY OF MINISTER'S INFORMAL DISCUSSION OF C/USAC ISSUE WITH C/USAC OFFICIALS AND THE AMERICAN TEA COUNCIL DURING HIS VISIT. RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MARINE TRANSPORTATION, FREIGHT RATES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** collinp0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1973STATE198993  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JMGARNER:BMH  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Line Count:** 87  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A) STATE 174515; B) COLOMBO 2330; C)  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** collinp0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07-Jan-2002 by willialc>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2002 by collinp0>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** US/SRI LANKA OCEAN SHIPPING  
**TAGS:** ETRN, CE, US  
**To:** COLOMBO  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005